

A2 Sub B1
6. (Amended) The hose according to claim 1, wherein the rubber material is peroxide-cured EPDM or EPM free of zinc oxide.

Please cancel claim 17 without prejudice, and insert the following claim in lieu thereof:

--21. A method of manufacturing a hose according to claim 1, which comprises the following steps:

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- a) curing the rubber material of the innermost layer with a metal-oxide-and sulfur-free curing agent;
 - b) forming the metallic barrier layer in the multi-layer wall surrounding the innermost layer and
 - c) extracting soluble matter from the innermost layer of the multi-layer wall under heat-aging condition.--